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# Public Notice

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**Applicant:** Ohio Department of Transportation  
**Date:** of Published:  
**Expires:**

**U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers**

**In Reply Refer To:**

Buffalo District **CELRB-CO-R RE:** 95-515-1(3) **Section:** OH 404

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**Application for Permit under Authority of  
Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).**

Mr. Gordon Proctor, on behalf of the Ohio Department of Transportation, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223, has applied for a Department of the Army permit for authorization to work and place fill in waters of the United States in connection with the proposed relocation of approximately 11.5 miles of U.S. Route 30. The project is located from existing U.S. 23, east of Upper Sandusky, Wyandot County, to the Bucyrus Bypass, just west of the City of Bucyrus, Crawford County, Ohio.

Department of the Army (DA) authorization is required to fill a total of 2.48 acres of waters of the United States including 1.83 acres of streams (3,789 linear feet in 11 streams) and 0.65 acre of wetland. The proposed U.S. Route 30 improvement is a four-lane, limited access divided highway on a new alignment. Specific design features consist of two 12-foot wide lanes with 14-foot wide paved outside shoulders and 4-foot wide paved inside shoulders in each direction divided by a 60-foot wide grass median. Access is limited to interchanges at U.S. 23, SR 231 and the Bucyrus Bypass.

A summary of activities requiring DA authorization is as follows:

**Rock Run Tributary**

Site #14 (Sta. 30+987) - Fill or modify 334 ft. of existing intermittent stream channel; install 239 ft. of 78" conduit beneath highway embankment.

Site #20 (Sta. 32+581) - Fill or modify 447 ft. of existing intermittent stream channel; install 357 ft. of 60" conduit beneath highway embankment.

Site #21 (Sta. 0+870) - Fill or modify 388 ft. of existing intermittent stream channel; install 73 ft. of 60" conduit beneath highway embankment.

**Broken Sword Creek and Tributaries**

Site #26 (Sta. 34+440) - Fill 692 ft. of stream channel and reroute drainage by ditching (Ramp H).

Site #28 (Sta. 36+385) - Install parallel bridges over creek; temporary disturbance of 96 ft. of perennial stream by a temporary crossing.

Site #30 (Sta. 37+206) - Fill, modify and relocate 1195 ft. of intermittent stream channel; install 272 ft. of 60" conduit and construct approximately 672 ft. of relocated channel (544 ft. at inlet and 128 ft. at outlet).

Site #31 (Sta. 37+160) - Fill 164 ft. of stream channel and reroute drainage by ditching.

#### Grass Run, Tributaries, and Unnamed Channel

Site #39 (Sta. 0+720) - Fill 320 ft. of existing intermittent stream channel and reroute drainage by ditching.

Site #43a (Sta. 0+920) - Fill 83 ft. of stream channel and reroute drainage by ditching.

Site #46 (Sta. 0+892) - Fill or modify 166 ft. of existing intermittent stream channel; install two 210 ft. of 60" conduit beneath highway.

Site #50 (Sta. 6+700) - No channel length disturbed; replace existing U.S. 30 westbound bridge over creek.

#### Wetlands

D-47a (Sta. 5+970) - Fill 0.03 acre

D-47b (Sta. 5+930) - Fill 0.20 acre

D-47c (Sta. 6+060) - Fill 0.42 acre

The purpose and need for the project as described by the applicant is: The proposed improvement of this 11.5 mile section of U.S. 30 represents one section in the overall planned Statewide upgrade of U.S. 30 to a four-lane, limited access facility extending west to east across Ohio. This project's endpoints connect other portions of U.S. 30 that have already been completed. The purpose and need for the project is based on capacity, level of service and safety deficiencies identified for the existing two-lane U.S. 30; long-term transportation goals to complete this link of the Statewide U.S. 30 upgrade and the projected regional and Statewide economic benefit of the improvement.

To mitigate for unavoidable wetland losses, the applicant proposes to preserve the 1.67 acre Wetland C-6 and debit one acre of mitigation credit from ODOT's consolidated Wetland Mitigation Area. To mitigate for the unavoidable stream impacts, the applicant proposes to use depressed culverts, incorporate natural channel design principals on relocated stream channels and use riparian plantings.

Materials related to this project can be viewed between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, at the Ohio Department of Transportation District 1 Office located at 1885 North McCullough Street, Lima, Ohio, telephone: (419) 222-9055.

Location and details of the above described work are shown on the attached maps and drawings.

Questions pertaining to the work described in this notice should be directed to Kathleen M. Ryan, who can be contacted by calling (716) 879-4392, or by e-mail at: [kathleen.m.ryan@usace.army.mil](mailto:kathleen.m.ryan@usace.army.mil)

The following authorization(s) may be required for this project:

Water Quality Certification (or waiver thereof) from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

There are no registered historic properties or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that will be affected by this project.

In addition, available evidence indicates that the proposed work will not affect a species proposed or designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as threatened or endangered, nor will it affect the critical habitat of any such species.

This notice is promulgated in accordance with Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, parts 320-330. Any interested party desiring to comment on the work described herein may do so by submitting their comments, in writing, so that they are received no later than 4:30 pm on the expiration date of this notice.

Comments should be sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207-3199, and should be marked to the attention of Kathleen M. Ryan, or by e-mail at: [kathleen.m.ryan@usace.army.mil](mailto:kathleen.m.ryan@usace.army.mil). A lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the work as proposed.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. All written comments will be made a part of the administrative record. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

Any individual may request a public hearing by submitting their written request, stating the specific reasons for holding a hearing, in the same manner and time period as other comments.

Public hearings for the purposes of the Corps permit program will be held when the District Commander determines he can obtain additional information, not available in written comments, that will aid him in the decision making process for this application. A Corps hearing is not a source of information for the general public, nor a forum for the resolution of issues or conflicting points of view (witnesses are not sworn and cross examination is prohibited). Hearings will not be held to obtain information on issues unrelated to the work requiring a permit, such as property ownership, neighbor disputes, or the behavior or actions of the public or applicant on upland property not regulated by the Department of the Army. Information obtained from a public hearing is given no greater weight than that obtained from written comments. Therefore, you should not fail to make timely written comments because a hearing might be held.

The decision to approve or deny this permit request will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Paul G. Leuchner  
Chief, Regulatory Branch

NOTICE TO POSTMASTER: It is requested that this notice be posted continuously and conspicuously for 30 days from the date of issuance.